

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 25-48 are pending in this application. By this amendment, Claims 25, 26, 27 and 47 are amended; and no claims are canceled or added herewith. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added by this amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action Claim 47 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph; Claims 25-27, 29, 31-33, 35-38, 45-46 and 48 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. 2002/0079826 to Park; Claims 28, 34, 43 and 44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Park; and Claims 30, 39, 40, 41-42 and 47 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Park in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,983,881 to Eliasson.

With respect to the rejection of Claim 47 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, Claim 47 is amended by the present amendment. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of the claim under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph is respectfully requested.

With respect to the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and § 103, those rejections are respectfully traversed. In particular, the applied art does not teach or suggest at least two glass substrates kept mutually parallel and defined in an internal gas-filled space, each substrate having an internal surface facing the internal space and an external surface facing away from the internal space, two electrodes associated with the glass substrates, and away from the internal surface, with the internal surface of at least one substrate coated with a phosphor material, as recited in Claim 25 are similarly recited in Claim 47.

Instead, Park discusses as shown in FIG. 3, a flat luminescent lamp having a first substrate 31 having a plurality of grooves and first electrodes 33 buried in the grooves facing the internal space. A first dielectric layer 35 is formed on the first substrate 31 including the

first electrodes 33, a reflecting material layer 37 is formed on the first dielectric layer 35 and a first phosphor layer 39 is formed on the reflecting material layer 37. A second substrate 31a has a plurality of grooves therein and second electrodes 33a are buried in the grooves of the second substrate 31a facing the internal space.

With respect to Claim 30, the Office Action asserts that Eliasson teaches the claimed features. However, Eliasson merely discusses that the radiation source includes a quartz panel 1 and a metal panel 2 which are separated from each other by spacers 3. There is no teaching or suggestion for at least one additional electrical insulation formed by another glass substrate that is laminated to at least one glass substrate by an intermediate film that can make the two substrates adhere to each other, as set forth in Claim 30.

Accordingly, the features of the claimed invention are not taught by Park. Eliasson does not make up for the deficiencies of Park discussed above, nor does the Office Action particularly assert as such. In accordance with the features of the claimed invention, joining one or more electrical insulations to the glass substrate(s) of the lamp makes it possible, apart from protecting the electrodes, to produce decorative or illuminating objects incorporating decorative plates that present flat decorations, for example photographs, screen printing, enameled decorations. According to an example of the invention, by placing the electrodes on the outside of the enclosure containing the plasma gas at reduced pressure, allows the manufacturing cost of the lamp to be considerably lowered, with illumination characteristics well suited to the use as a luminaire. The glass substrate can act as capacitive protection for the electrodes against ion bombardment.

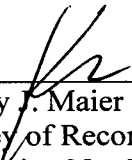
The features of the claimed invention are not taught or suggested in the applied art and therefore, the applied are cannot provide at least the advantages discussed above. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and § 103 is respectfully requested.

Consequently, for the reasons discussed in detail above, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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